



Image: Steve Pyke



Image: Yulia Mahr



Image: Siriti Kumari, Sunbeam Productions

Glass Richter Järvi

**New
Zealand
Festival**
OF THE ARTS

21 Feb - 15 Mar 2020
Pōneke | Wellington

rnzb

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND BALLET

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: PATRICIA BARKER

Touring nationally
29 MAY - 5 JUL 2020

Venus Rising

Four celestial ballets, by internationally renowned choreographers, capture the spirit and power of *Venus Rising* – brightest of stars, herald of the dusk and of the dawn. Don't miss the Royal New Zealand Ballet's powerful new programme of dance at the Opera House this Winter.

CHOREOGRAPHY BY:
TWYLA THARP
ALICE TOPP
ANDREA SCHERMOLY
SARAH FOSTER-SPROULL

Dancer / Sara Garbowski
Photography / Ross Brown



SUPPORTED BY



NATIONAL TOURING
PARTNER

2020
SEASON
of dance

BOOK NOW
rnzb.org.nz

Glass/Richter/Järvi

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Conducted by **Kristjan Järvi with members of Absolute Ensemble** (Aotearoa/New Zealand, Estonia, United States)

A message from the Creative Director

Nau mai haere mai ki Te Taurima o Aotearoa. In 2020, artists are taking over the New Zealand Festival of the Arts bringing more creative voices into the conversation. We invited internationally renowned artists Lemi Ponifasio, Laurie Anderson and Bret McKenzie to select a signature series of arts experiences for each week of the Festival. Meet our Guest Curators and the many artists who will join them, for a Festival of the Arts that celebrates honesty, bravery and splendour, and art that inspires conversation.

Philip Glass and his ensemble performed as part of the very first New Zealand Festival programme and in another first, the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra performs Philip Glass for the first time in its history. Under the baton of the dynamic Estonian-American conductor Kristjan Järvi, who is known for his interpretations of Glass, you can expect a classical music experience that steps outside the norm transforming the Michael Fowler Centre with projection and light. Presenting Glass' *Águas da Amazônia*, this is a timely performance that celebrates the life-giving force of the mighty Amazon River.

Marnie Karmelita

New Zealand Festival of the Arts

Thanks to:



Event programmes supported by:



Please make sure your mobile phone is turned off. Latecomers will only be seated during an appropriate break. Taking photographs and using a recording device at any Festival performance are strictly forbidden. Ticket holders consent to be filmed as part of the audience. The information in this programme is correct at the time of publication. The Festival reserves the right to alter, without notice, events, programmes and artists.

Tell us what you think of the show

   @NZFestivaloftheArts #NZFEST festival.nz

A message of thanks to our Patrons

Thank you to our Patrons for your support of the 2020 New Zealand Festival of the Arts.

Patron support is crucial to the Festival's continued sustainability. It allows us to aspire to and curate programmes of international excellence across a range of activities, of which Glass/Richter/Järvi is a fine example. It also helps us encourage and support the next generation of audiences through engagement and free events.

If you would like to deepen your connection and join the Festival's community of Patrons, we encourage you to find out more about becoming a Patron on the Festival website festival.nz, where you can join us any time.

We hope you enjoy tonight's performance and your 2020 Festival.

Ngā mihi nui,

Geoff Dangerfield

Chair

New Zealand Festival Board

Dates

Sun 23 Feb,
7.30pm

Venue

Michael Fowler
Centre

Duration

1hr 30mins

Artist Talk

Pre-show, 6.30pm, Renouf Foyer.
Facilitated by John Psathas

Credits

Conductor **Kristjan Järvi**

Absolute Ensemble

Mat Fieldes

(Bass)

David Rozenblatt

(Percussion)

Charlie Porter

(Trumpet)

NZSO

Hamish McKeich

Principal Conductor
in Residence

Edo de Waart

Conductor Laureate

Pietari Inkinen

Honorary Conductor

James Judd

Music Director Emeritus

FIRST VIOLINS

Vesa-Matti Leppänen

Concertmaster

Donald Armstrong

Associate Concertmaster

Yuka Eguchi

Assistant Concertmaster

Jessica Odie*

Guest Assistant

Concertmaster

Yury Gezentsvey

Principal

Emma Barron

Ursula Evans

Malavika Gopal

Pam Jiang

Haihong Liu

Anne Loeser

Alan Molina

Gregory Squire

Rebecca Struthers

Anna van der Zee

Beiyi Xue

Kristina Zelinska

SECOND VIOLINS

Andrew Thomson

Section Principal

Amy Brookman

Associate Principal

Janet Armstrong

Assistant Sub-Principal

David Gilling

Sub-Principal Emeritus

Simeon Broom

Elspeth Gray

Andrew Kasza

Dean Major

Simon Miller

Megan Molina

Elizabeth Patchett

Lucien Rizos

Katherine Rowe

VIOLAS

Julia Joyce

Section Principal

Peter Barber

Assistant Sub-Principal

Lisa Boyes

Michael Cuncannon

Anna Debnam

Beatrix Francis

Jenaro Garita

Nicholas Hancox

Victoria Jaenecke

Lyndsay Mountfort

Belinda Veitch

CELLOS

Andrew Joyce

Section Principal

Ken Ichinose

Associate Principal

David Chickering

Section Principal Emeritus

Brigid O'Meeghan

Assistant Sub-Principal

Emeritus

Eleanor Carter

Robert Ibell

Sally Isaac

Annemarie Meijers

Rowan Prior

BASSES

Joan Perarnau Garriga

Section Principal

Nicholas Sandle

Assistant Sub-Principal

Emeritus

Matthew Cave

Oleksandr Gunchenko

Alanna Jones

Malcolm Struthers

HARP

Carolyn Mills

Section Principal

FLUTES

Bridget Douglas

Section Principal

Kirstin Eade

Associate Principal

PICCOLO

Ignacio de Nicolas

Principal

OBOES

Robert Orr

Section Principal

COR ANGLAIS

Michael Austin

Principal

CLARINETS

Patrick Barry

Section Principal

Ellen Deverall

Associate Principal

BASS CLARINET

Rachel Vernon

Principal

BASSOONS

Robert Weeks

Section Principal

Vicky Crowell

Associate Principal

CONTRABASSOON

David Angus

Principal

HORNS

Samuel Jacobs

Section Principal

Ian Wildsmith

Associate Principal

David Moonan

Sub-Principal

TRUMPETS

Michael Kirgan

Section Principal

Cheryl Hollinger

Associate Principal

Mark Carter

Sub-Principal

TROMBONES

David Bremner

Section Principal

Matthew Allison

Associate Principal

BASS TROMBONE

Shannon Pittaway

Principal

TIMPANI

Laurence Reese

Section Principal

PERCUSSION

Leonard Sakofsky

Section Principal

Thomas Guldborg

Associate Principal/
Assistant Timpani

Thanks to Alistair Fraser and Radio New Zealand

Music

Max Richter

Infra

Originally composed for the Royal Ballet's 2008 production, which was choreographed by Wayne McGregor, *Infra* is about travelling and was written as a reaction to the 7/7 bombings in London, a reflection on the city at the time and the tragedy of those events. The title *Infra* comes from 'vide infra', the Latin words for 'see below' referring to the work as a portrait of life beneath the surface of the city. The work is characteristic of Richter's musical voice, minimalism combined with sweeping melodies and harmonic complexity.

Philip Glass

Águas da Amazônia

(New Zealand premiere)

Águas da Amazônia was first performed by the Brazilian instrumental group UAKTI. The piece was originally composed as a dance score for a ballet company of Belo Horizonte (Grupo Corpo). Philip Glass was introduced to UAKTI by Paul Simon. The ten movement work takes inspiration from the powerful Amazon River, beginning with Tiquié River and ending in Metamorphosis. Glass composed the music which the group performed under the artistic direction of, and with arrangements by, Marco Antônio Guimarães. This was the first time that Glass' music was arranged by another composer.

Years ago when I first met Uakti, I saw their music and performance as a unique and beautiful contribution to the world of new and experimental music. I became friends with musicians; especially I came to admire Marco's extraordinary ear for colour and composition. I was therefore very pleased when some years later they proposed a collaboration. It would be a dance score for the ballet company Grupo Corpo of their city, Belo Horizonte. The resulting composition represents a true melding of my music with their sensibilities.

– Philip Glass

The New Zealand Symphony Orchestra has never performed work by Philip Glass and this is the premiere of *Águas da Amazônia* in New Zealand.

Philip Glass

Philip Glass is an American composer and pianist. He is widely regarded as one of the most influential composers of the late 20th century. Glass' work has been described as minimal music, having similar qualities to other 'minimalist' composers such as La Monte Young, Steve Reich, and Terry Riley. Glass describes himself as a composer of "music with repetitive structures", which he has helped evolve stylistically.

Glass founded the Philip Glass Ensemble, with which he still performs on keyboards. He has written numerous operas and musical theatre works, twelve symphonies, eleven concertos, eight string quartets and various other chamber music, and film scores. Three of his film scores have been nominated for Academy Awards.



Image: Steve Pyke

Max Richter

Max Richter is a German-born British composer who has been an influential voice in post-minimalist composition and in the meeting of contemporary classical and alternative popular musical styles since the early 2000s. Richter is classically trained, having graduated in composition from the Royal Academy of Music and studied with Luciano Berio in Italy.

Richter also composes music for stage, opera, ballet and screen. He has collaborated with other musicians, as well as with performance, installation and media artists. He has recorded eight solo albums and his music is widely used in cinema.



Image: Rhys Frampton

Kristjan Järvi

Kristjan Järvi lives and breathes music, using its power to create spaces in which anything is possible. Järvi pursues his pioneering ideas as a conductor, producer, composer and arranger. With indomitable spirit he runs his own production company Sunbeam Productions.

“Kristjan Järvi has earned a reputation as one of the canniest, and most innovative, programmers on the classical scene” (*Reuters*). As a conductor, he is right at home on the big international stages, directing great classics from Wagner to Tchaikovsky as well as Steve Reich and Radiohead.

Alongside conducting, Kristjan Järvi developed his own unique sound by founding the international Baltic Sea Philharmonic and co-founding the New York-based classical-hip-hop-jazz group Absolute Ensemble. Taking his artistic take on life to the next level with the Sunbeam productions and tours, Järvi continues to pave the way to a whole new sound experience.

Besides his own productions, Kristjan Järvi collaborates internationally with outstanding artists like director Tom Tykwer (for the soundtrack of *Babylon Berlin*) and recording artists like MUM, Bryce Dessner (The National), Hauschka, Robot Koch and Max Richter.



NZSO

Recognised as an outstanding orchestra of international stature, the NZSO's reputation for artistic excellence attracts many of the world's leading conductors and soloists each year.

Touring nationally, the NZSO performs a wide variety of music through Podium Series and Experience concerts at more than 28 different venues across New Zealand, performing to more than 100,000 people every year. Many more people enjoy the Orchestra's performances through RNZ Concert broadcasts, film soundtracks and recordings. The Orchestra is also proud to nurture New Zealand's best young musical talent as part of the NZSO Engage programmes and the NZSO National Youth Orchestra.

The New Zealand Symphony Orchestra is a long-standing partner of the New Zealand Festival of the Arts and is proud to open the 2020 festival with performances of Górecki's *Symphony of Sorrowful Songs*, Max Richter's *Infra* and Philip Glass' *Águas da Amazônia* over two nights.



The LIBRARY

reading room / lounge bar / live music / sweets & treats

Open 7 days
Upstairs, 53 Courtenay Place
Wellington
thelibrary.co.nz

Absolute Ensemble

Absolute Ensemble is a multi-disciplinary electro-acoustic chamber band based in New York City. Created in 1993 by Kristjan Järvi, the Absolute Ensemble has 18 key players hailing from across the Globe (Japan, Estonia, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, Holland, Bulgaria, Canada and the USA). Järvi's uncanny prescience for the future of classical music led him to create the band that the American Record Guide claims "may well be the most alluring and virtuosic of today's new music groups." An ebullient mix of jazz, classical and world music played with virtuosic flair, each project is created by the group from start to finish, drawing from their rich portfolios as composers, performers and improvisers.

For this evening's performance we are very privileged to welcome three members of Absolute Ensemble to perform.

David Rozenblatt (Percussion)

David Rozenblatt is a platinum selling and Grammy nominated drummer and percussionist, as well as an accomplished composer. He received two Grammy nominations for both classical and pop genres: Absolute Ensemble's *Absolution* and Barry Manilow's platinum selling *In the Swing of Christmas*.

Born in Kiev, Ukraine, David moved to the United States at the age of four. The following year, he started playing drums professionally and years later received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from The Juilliard School. He devotes time to music students of all ages and records for various artists, TV shows and films from his studio in New York.

Charlie Porter (Trumpet)

A Grammy-Award winning trumpeter and composer, Charlie first cut his teeth on the New York jazz scene, while simultaneously studying classical trumpet performance at The Juilliard School. He has toured the world as a side-man and band-leader in jazz and also as a classical soloist and chamber musician.

Charlie released his eponymous debut album *Charlie Porter* in 2018 to critical acclaim. His second album is titled *Immigration Nation*. Porter is also a founding member of the Grammy-nominated electro-acoustic Absolute Ensemble.

A professor of jazz trumpet studies at Portland State University, Porter is regarded internationally as a clinician and educator.

Mat Fieldes (Bass)

Born in Hastings, New Zealand, Mat Fieldes earned his master's degree from The Juilliard School in New York. Equally comfortable in Classical, Jazz, Rock, Hip-hop, R&B and Broadway genres Fieldes has collaborated with such luminaries as Joe Jackson, John Cale, Ornette Coleman, Jim Steinman, Sufjan Stevens, Steve Vai, Peter Erskine and Kelli O'Hara among others. He tours extensively as solo bassist for Absolute Ensemble.

Festival Partners

Innovation Partners

Leader



Activators



Supporters



Experience Partners

Leader



Activators



Supporters



Thanks to



Destination Partners

Leader



Activator



Supporters



Venue Partner



Engagement Partners

Cultural Partner



Activator



Supporters



Patron Partner



Creative Partners

Leader



Supporters



Accessibility Partners



Launchpad Partners



Core Partner



Core Funder



Major Grants



A partnership between Wellington City, Hutt City, Upper Hutt City and Porirua City Councils.



LOGAN BROWN
RESTAURANT & BAR

SET YOUR EVENING UP WITH A PRE FESTIVAL DINNER AT LOGAN BROWN



3 divine and
elegant courses
with bread – \$50



Premium wine
matches from Festival
partner Villa Maria –
\$45



Trust us, we have
been getting our
guests to their shows
on time for 23 years!

From 5pm Tuesday through Sunday

Also available for lunch Wednesday through Saturday

Book on line www.loganbrown.co.nz or call **04 801 5114**

SELLING FAST

4 March

Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington

Grammy Award-Winner

Rhiannon Giddens **with Francesco Turrisi**



“A folk landmark” – THE GUARDIAN (UK)



BOOK FAST

festival.nz

Image: Karen Cox

Partnered by:

OCTAVE

**New
Zealand
Festival**

OF THE ARTS

**21 Feb –
15 Mar 2020**